The Logger's Bark
RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

May, 2007 Volume 3, Issue 5 Copyright RCT

FROM THE EDITOR...

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Well folks, Kind of a small issue this month. I've been waiting for some of you to contribute, and so far it's been a long lonely wait.

The result is that the "Loggers Bark" is late and teeny-tiny.

Our favorite radio advice dude, "Radio Man" is off in Dayton, Ohio attending the Hamvention. We hope that he gets whatever he wants. Hopefully he will graces our pages again next month… You just never know with "R-M"!

Most everyone else is probably busy with the yard and house, planning big gardens and bigger antennas!

Big news this month: Ten meters has been open for days! As I sit here typing the newsletter, on 28.400 MHz I can hear several stations at once, and at least one dummy testing his radio on the air. Please! If you need to test your rig, use a suitable dummy load. Don't be like this dummy shouting "123 test, 123 test" over and over!

As long as we are on the subject, I've noticed a bit of discussion on the air and on the internet regarding on air behavior and language usage.

Folks, please, please don't ever forget that we operate on an open stage and what we say can sometimes be heard many miles (or Kilometers) away.

Simple English is usually best, and keep the bad stuff for when you are sitting at the pub quaffing a brew, OK?

Rambling on, the latest General class started Friday May 4th. It will go for six weeks, wrapping up just before the VE testing session in June. There will probably be a follow up class after that, it just depends on demand.

73, Gary

Below, WW7LW hit the beach for the 2005 Salmon run. From left KR7W, AC7QN, WG7X & WV7O.

EMCOMM
KD7UAQ

Since we are discussing, **If we** (that is RTC) should become involved with emergency communications lets try to define what 'emcomm' is. This is the really hard part! Historically a ham could and would help during a crisis with his knowledge of radios, propagation, and what ever. Nobody had to 'check him out' because his/hers was the only game in town and it either worked or did not, either way it was worth a try. In many situations when general communications failed, the ham community was able to provide some outstanding results that benefited the whole community. In addition, he/she did it free without supervision or direction from anyone. Well just check out the list of ARRL folks in Western Washington who have scads and scads of nets and formal this's and that's to offer aid.
http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=wwa And http://piercecountyaresraces.org

In addition, this is just the ARRL folks. It does not include Red Cross, Coast Guard Auxiliary, State Department of Emergency Management, County Departments of Emergency Management, City DEMs, etc. etc. How about police, fire, federal's, and the military? Yikes, we got us an army!!!

Now back to the topic 'emcomm'. If some one is in trouble and you can get help for them is that 'emcomm'? N.C. Tapper (that is No Code Tapper) says his uncle Fudd told him to "HEP THEM" and all would be forgiven if you did something wrong. Well that is NOT TRUE. I forgot to mention above that the feds have rules we must follow or be fined, jailed, or fed federal food for a very long time. In other words, the lawyers have gotten into the act and of course 'government' smelled money when the Department of Homeland Security and its FEMA came along. Now we have us some dandy rules to follow at all times.

Just check out the FCC definition of what you can and cannot do as an emergency communicator. http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/rules-regs.html

Now that you have easily burned up a couple hours looking at all the "stuff", let's get back to a workable definition of what emcomm is and what it is not. First, the mere operating of a radio (or telephone, or fax machine, or teletype, or computer) and passing messages involving an emergency does not necessarily make it 'emcomm' traffic. The defining element is whether you have a discomfort or disappointment and just a perceived emergency or a true emergency involving personal safety and potential or real property damage.

Now if Susan B. Beautiful has a flat tire at noon on a city side street near a friendly known gas station when the sun is shining and the good-looking garage man is conveniently standing idly nearby ready to help, then it may be a distraction but certainly not a full-blown emergency.

If the situation changed to a cold rainy snowy midnight in a known 'bad' part of town with no streetlights and SBB does not have her winter coat, gloves, boots, a gun, a cell phone, or what ever, now we have an emergency, at least as Susan B. is concerned. I defy you to tell her it is OK and not to worry. Will not happen. But is this really an 'emcomm' event? I do not think so, yet.

However, if Susan B. Beautiful is attacked, cut, bruised, raped, plundered etc. it changes into an 'emergency event'. And now the police, medical services, detectives, arresting officers, swat teams, search and rescue teams, medevac teams, air support, dive teams, social workers, FEMA representatives, wrecker towing service teams, etc. etc. etc. (look in the yellow pages - WOW it is amazing how many people are employed to help if and when needed) makes this an 'emergency event'.

But really, what has changed? The people paid to protect you, the general public, become involved and a rape plunder or terrorist attack becomes "an emergency incident event" requiring professional service. I do not mean to belittle the effect on Ms. Beautiful but it is the nature of, the intensity of, the potential for spreading or requiring containment of so others are not hurt that changes every thing AND the 'paid people' come on the scene.

So, let's define 'emcomm' ***as the supporting communication service provided by trained amateur federally licensed volunteers that facilitate the regaining and maintaining of public safety***. This does not mean that when we as radio operators who are providing crowd control for the Daffodil Parade Marshal are engaged in 'emcomm'. But, if something goes terribly wrong, people are hurt or are probably going to get hurt and property is being or might be damaged, then we have an 'event' and the NIMS/ICS program goes into action. 'Emcomm' is now what is happening.

The real issue for RCT is how do we fit in, if we do. Do we provide communication support to the Boy Scouts and parade grand marshal but if something bad happens, we just carefully take our radios and go home? Many questions develop. What are our historical duties, obligations, and commitments?

Let us just say "Emcomm" helps make it happen when you really need help. The rest of time hams help their communities really enjoy life by providing friendly volunteer communication services.

Next time we will explore who and how and some history of 'emcomm', 'til next time
73, KD7UAQ

4 April, 2007
Board Meeting

The 4 April 2007 board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Randy Thompson AD7FF called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Officers and board members present:
President: Randy Thompson AD7FF
Vice President: Jill Palmer – K7JIL
Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM
Treasurer: Pat Wingerter-- KD7TRC
Board Member Peter Baker – AD7EU
Board Member Bob Purdom KE7DGQ

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Minutes from the 7 March 2007 board meeting were approved as read/corrected.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence: Correspondence included the usual bank statements for the VE, Hamfest and regular checking accounts. A handful of QSL cards were received along with the Quest telephone bills and Tacoma Utilities bills. Club newsletters were received from the Olympia and Clark County Clubs and the Antique Radio Assn from Snohomish.

We also received an e-mail from Mr. Ray Terry asking for assistance with his 88 year old father Ferdin F. Terry (W7MYM) who has moved to the Bonney Lake area from Silverdale, and appears interested in returning to amateur radio activities. We will announce his interest at the general meeting on the 11th to see if someone can contact Mr. Terry.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Wingerter – KD7TRC distributed the Treasurers report. The report was accepted as presented.

Utility Expenses discussion:

Pat distributed the monthly financial report and made note of the increasing cost of Clubhouse utilities. There was a short discussion of a City of Tacoma program to provide free insulation, which Larry KD4VOM will investigate. There was also a discussion of putting the furnace on a timer. Larry reminded the group that he had given a set-back furnace thermostat/controller which we hadn't yet installed.

Bob Purdom agreed to install the setback thermostat. Al Burleson had already agreed to work on installing timers for the kitchen coffee pots for both safety and energy conservation reasons. Another candidate for energy reduction would be to remove the soda machine and just use the refrigerator. It's normally unlocked anyway and virtually nobody puts money in to get a soda.

Pat also reported on the transfer of the Treasurer's accounts to Gary McFadden K7UPG, which is ongoing…

A copy of the Monthly financial statement is attached.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Rick Rose KE7EMW reported that membership renewals are coming along well. He is nearing the time when he must mail receipts (there are 145 remaining to be sent at a cost of 30 cents each for an estimated expense of around $.58), and would prefer to hand deliver as many as possible to avoid the extra expense to the club. (*A listing of lapsed members is attached to the original copy of the minutes*).

Rick showed us a copy of the revised club roster. He plans to identify Life and Honorary members on the new rosters.

Our membership numbers are running slightly larger for the same time frame than 2005 and 2006.

March 31	2005	2006	2007
	246	254	272

W7DK Kirkreit Picnic: Larry KD4VOM announced that this year's picnic will be at Bradley Lake Park in Puyallup on June 9th. Hal Stahlhut W7EC has secured the 2pm to 6 pm time frame for us. Larry and Janice will manage the picnic, but need some help with cooking and setup/teardown. He is also soliciting someone to do the program if there is to be one.

Field Day: Bob AD7LJ is still exploring alternative locations

Hamfest: No report

W7DK @ the Puyallup Fair: Pat Wingerter KD7TRC asked if the Board wanted to participate in the Puyallup Fair again this year.

Peter AD7EU **moved** that we participate in the Puyallup Fair this year, the motion carried. Pat then announced that it is time to begin making plans for this year's fair and will have a proposed budget soon. She has agreed to manage this year's W7DK @ the Fair Program

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Tacoma Ethnic Fest: Peter AD7EU requested a vote on an information booth at Ethnic Fest. Budget is $40 and use of the banner.

Motion: Bob Purdom AD7LJ moved that the Club support Peter and provide the $40 booth fee. The motion carried, and Pat wrote the check to Metro Parks. Peter has four interested parties but all are welcome. He would like to operate a portable station from the info booth.

Motion: Bob Purdom AD7LJ moved that the Club reimburse Peter for the $40 booth fee. The motion carried. Peter also needs some help and access to the Club Banner.

Answering Machine: Bob Purdom AD7LJ announced that he has installed and has working a replacement answering machine for the club. Larry KD4VOM will arrange to terminate our Qwest Voicemail and other services no longer needed.

BARK Mailing: John AD7WW has let us know that the cost of mailing the hard copy of the BARK is increasing, in part because of the growing size of the newsletter. We are up to around 51 addresses and this last version was around 25 pages and will cost 87 cents per address to mail for a cost of $ 51.87. If this cost is sustained for a year the potential mailing cost will reach over $ 600.00. We need to review the process with Gary WG7X.

NEW BUSINESS:

Privacy Policy: Peter Baker, AD7EU circulated a paper containing a proposed draft of a club privacy statement and policy. He acknowledged that we are doing a good job of protecting member's privacy rights and was simply recommending that we formalize our policy in writing. (*A copy of Peter's proposal is attached to the original minutes*).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Field Day Pins and T Shirts: Larry KD4VOM announced that at the next several meetings he will be taking orders for Field Day T-Shirts and Pins. All orders must be prepaid…

Discussion Topics:

Illness and Silent Key: Jill K7JIL recommended we add Health and Welfare to the Board meeting routine agendas. All agreed. She asked about Joe Baldissari W7RQ. There was a question about Rick Leary W7LK and if anyone knew how he was doing. Jill needs to know when members are ill so she can call or send cards.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm

VE REPORT by John AC7WW.

The crowd did not materialize at the clubhouse on Tuesday evening April 10, 2007. Nine Volunteer Examiners served twelve candidates. Twenty-three elements were graded with thirteen being passed. Four new Technician Class Amateurs joined the Amateur Service. Seven Amateurs upgraded to General Class. One Amateur upgraded to Extra.

Next Scheduled Testing Session is Tuesday May 8th.

Thanks to the following Volunteer Examiners that conducted the session.

Steve Blacksten, KD7UBE
Al Burleson, K7HW
Al Churchill, AC7BU
Jon Hamilton, AD7AW
Rich Heasty, KK7VH
Stephen Morton, AD7AB
Don Perry, K7QLC
Roland Svensson, WQ7P

WE GET LETTERS:

Hello to Everyone,
I missed by visit to Tacoma this winter. Hope to see everyone next winter. I try to keep up on the news by reading the Bark and the email on the mail list. I'm getting ready to leave for the Dayton Hamvention and will be spending a couple of months visiting with my sister in Richmond, IN.

CQ CQ CQ de COQP - Colorado QSO Party is July 15th!

The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association is sponsoring the 2007 return of
the Colorado QSO Party on July 15th! Mark your calendars now and plan to
get on the air and work as many stations in the 64 Colorado counties as you
can! The party runs from 1200Z July 15 to 0400 July 16 (Sunday the 15th in
the U.S.). Operation can be CW, Phone, Digital, or any combination.
Operating bands are all HF contesting bands, VHF, and UHF. There will be
many awards given for top scorers in several categories. The complete rules
and latest party information are at www.ppraa.org/coqp. Catch you on the
air for COQP!

Hope that you can add the above to the Bark. On the web site are severallinks to include one to sponsor plaques.

73 and hope to hear you during the Colorado QSO Party,

Dave Sloan N0EOP

2 May, 2007

The2 May 2007 board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Randy Thompson AD7FF called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:
President: Randy Thompson AD7FF
Vice President: Jill Palmer – K7JIL
Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM
Treasurer: Gary McFadden – K7UPG
Board Member Peter Baker – AD7EU
Board Member: Alan Lentz – W7AML
Board Member Bob Purdom KE7DGQ

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Minutes from the 4 April 2007 board meeting were approved as read/corrected.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence: Consisted of the normal bank statements and utility bills.

The annual State Corporation report is due this month.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gary McFadden K7UPG

Gary Presented the April Financial Report

A copy of the Monthly financial statement is attached to the original minutes.

ILLNESS AND SILENT KEY: Jill K7JIL reported that she had sent a card to Rich Manson who is recovering from arm surgery. Rich was at the meeting and seems to be recovering well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Rick Rose KE7EMW announced that the current paid membership count stood at 279, and historically we gain another 30 to 50 members during the year.
Rick also presented the newly formatted annual Membership Roster, which sports a photo montage cover and now contains a quick reference list of officers and program contacts as well as a listing of our Club Repeaters, nets, IRLP and Packet information.
Rick provided the estimated costs for publishing the Membership Roster to include sufficient copies to cover future members joining over the year.
Rick provided the Treasure with his expenses report for work done so far. The rosters will be mailed using our bulk mail permit.
Rick is also preparing to send membership cards and associated receipts to those members who he has not been able to contact personally. These will be sent at a first class rate and are not sufficient to qualify for bulk mailing

Hamfest – No report

Planning Team:

Financial Review – is completed and copies …

Emergency Operations – Bruce Mackey KD7UAQ's series of BARK articles start in this issue.

Equipment Inventory – Going will, but much more to do.

Development project – Ken Gibson KE7IGZ, who was planning to spearhead a fundraising project for us has signed on to a new position in Eastern Washington, and will be unable to continue the project.

Library Construction Project:

Field Day: Bob Purdom AC7LJ reports that although we still don't have a firm site for Field Day, the Rifle and Pistol Club competing event has agreed that we can both operate together. Meanwhile Bob has been in contact with Pierce County Department of Emergency Management and has an appointment this Friday to discuss their offer of support for a Field Day site. They are planning a presentation for our 23 May meeting, and have indicated that they are planning to bring an emergency operations mobile command unit. There is also a possibility of Grant money to support our emergency operations.

Bob requested that the Club identify an Emergency Coordinator and team to explore opportunities with the Pierce county Department of Emergency Management.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Qwest Telephone Service: Larry KD4VOM reported that unneeded Qwest services; voicemail, call forwarding and long distance have been turned off and we are now using the local answering machine, located in the HF room.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Scouting Event: Bob Purdom AC7LJ announced that he and Steve Blacksten KD7UBE were planning to support a Scouting event in June.

Mother's Day Brunch: Rich Manson N7ANF reminded all that our Mother's Day Brunch is scheduled for May 20th at the Clubhouse, from around 9 to 11 am.

Field Day Shirts and Pins: Larry KD4VOM has a sign up sheet for those wishing to order 2007 Field Day Shirts or pins. All orders must be prepaid and the order will be submitted near the end of May to insure delivery in time for Field Day

W7DK Kirkreit Picnic: Larry KD4VOM announced that flyers and a sign up sheet are being circulated for the June 9th annual picnic. This year we will be at Bradley Lake Park behind the South Hill Wal-Mart. The Picnic will run from 12 to 4 pm.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Meeting Program – Amateur Television System: Rick Rose KE7EMW announced that he is working with Chandler Ellis KC7EYZ to present a meeting program on Amateur Television. He has also located a complete Amateur Television transmitter rack mounted system available cost free for us to install. Rick suggested that we could eventually videotape our meetings and provide them by the Amateur Radio Television to our shut-ins. There was general agreement to acquire the system and install it. Rick has been trying to coordinate the activity with the Nick K7MO the station engineer.

Alarm System Upgrade: Rick KE7EMW reminded us that an upgraded security system is on the Safety and Security Committee's list and budget. Rick has been talking to Rich Patrick KR7W on the details of what needs to be done.

Antenna on top of Garage Roof: Rich N7ANF asked if anyone knows who put the mast up in the center of the garage several years ago, and what it was planned to be used for. Rich would like to put up a 6 meter beam and rotor there. Randy will work with Rich to get it set up.

Silent Key and Honorary Member Boards: Jill K7JIL asked if Dick Ryan was still maintaining the Silent Key Board. The response was yes. Nick Pier KK7QS also noted that the Honorary Member board had not been updated in several years. Rick KE7EMW said that he is working on the Honorary Member board.

Below, some pictures of Roddy and Davina Nolten KE7JQU and KE7JQV, during their visit to a Federal Way clean up Project! Davina says:

My dad (Roddy-KE7JQU) and I participated in Operation Cover Up (a graffiti clean up project) in Federal Way last Saturday, April 21st. We were two of ten other amateurs who provided communications support for the event. I was selected to work with City Manager Neal Beets and Deputy Police Chief Andy Hwang.

Happy Birthday May

Day	Full Name Familiar	Call	RCT Number
2	Anna Winter	**K7ANA**	2228
2	Bob Vandenheuvel	**KE7ECQ**	2281
2	Bruce Mackey	**KD7UAQ**	2180
2	Gary McFadden	**K7UPG**	2197
2	John Arena	**KB7TGE**	1588
3	Al Churchill	**AC7BU**	1988
6	Heidi Holme		2274
6	Roddney Saucedo	**WV7O**	2156
8	Andrew Evancho Jr	**WA7JGO**	2081
14	Nick Olson	**N7BCV**	692
17	Herb Young	**KB7SRN**	2204
18	Bob Reed	**KE7JFV**	2313
18	Mike Wingren	**KD7QBF**	2144
20	Chris Jensen	**W7YX**	623
21	Wade Palmer	**WA7OHG**	1783
23	Larry Alvar	**KD7TQW**	2171
25	Kathleen Nace	**N0EYK**	1352
26	Gary Pankey	**KE7ETD**	2277
27	Dick Ryan	**W7RGD**	310
27	Scott Peterson	**KA7IOX**	982
29	Steve Russman	**WB7WUX**	870
31	Mary Kelley	**W7SKR**	317

The Radio Club of Tacoma's

Logger's Bark

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Club Officers

President: Randy Thompson AD7FF, 253-476-9249, ad7ff@hotmail.com
Vice Pres: Jill Palmer, K7JIL, 253-539-7772, hamtalker2@msn.com
Secretary: Larry Watson, KD4VOM, rwatson@chirpmail.com
Treasurer: POSITION TO BE FILLED– email PRES for info

5 Board Members (listed in no particular order)

Peter Baker, AD7EU, 253-274-1957, ad7eu.pp@gmail.com
Gary McAdams, WG7X, 253-984-0868, see roster email address
Nick Winter, K7MO, 253-474-3788, wjnjr@blarg.net
Bob Purdom, KE7DGQ, 253-606-2636, cdrbob@hotmail.com
Alan Lentz, W7AML, 253-851-9774, alentz@centurytel.net

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The Fine Print: The Logger's Bark is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The Bark is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: www.w7dk.org. If a condensed paper copy is needed… then let the Printer/Publisher listed above know.
ADVERTISE in the BARK: $60.00 full page, $30.00 half page, $15.00 quarter page, $5.00 business card size. These charges offset the publishing and USPS mailing costs.
Want / For Sale ads are free to members. The Logger's Bark does not verify or guarantee statements in the Want For Sale listings. Permission is granted to use any or all portions of articles published in The Loggers Bark if Credit line is included in the article.

Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is $30 per calendar year. $25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5 Central Tacoma Packet: 144.970
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5
Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

THE LOGGER'S BARK
Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.
P.O. Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

TO RCT MEMBER:

MAY 2007 EVENTS

Club Meetings: Wednesdays May 9th and 23rd at the library Administration building at 7:30 PM, 112th & Waller road. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting, Wednesday May 2nd 7:30 PM at the. Clubhouse - All members welcome.

License Testing - Tuesday, May 8th 7:00 PM at the RCT clubhouse.

BARK deadline Saturday May 26th 2007- PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB